

COVID-19 Support Services Program Overview

Key Priorities



Provide food assistance to those impacted by COVID-19 and/or in a high-risk population



Ensure program decisions prioritize underserved communities



Address immediate food insecurities in vulnerable populations

Who's Eligible?



People who live in one of 34 North Carolina counties with food box delivery services



An individual is eligible if they are **quarantining or isolating** due to:

1. A request from health official
2. Having a high-risk condition

Overview

The COVID-19 [Support Services Program \(SSP\)](#) supports people in 34 counties who need access to food to successfully quarantine or isolate due to COVID-19. SSP partners with Community Health Workers to perform food needs assessments in covered counties, with food box deliveries performed by the Food Bank of Central & Eastern North Carolina (FB CENC).

What's new?

Previously SSP covered multiple services, but beginning Oct. 4, 2021, SSP will provide food box deliveries, one of the top requested services from program recipients.

Eligibility

Individuals eligible for the program include those in one of the 34 counties who tested positive for or were exposed to COVID-19 and need food to safely quarantine or isolate, **OR** those who fall into the CDC's high-risk category for severe illness due to COVID-19 and need food to safely isolate. *See back page for eligibility details on counties served and high-risk conditions.*

Who Is a Community Health Worker?

Community Health Workers (CHWs) are based locally to connect North Carolinians to emergency food services through SSP.

[Learn more](#) about the CHW program. [Find out the CHW contact in your county.](#)

Getting Connected to SSP Services



An individual connects with a Community Health Worker in person or by phone



A Community Health Worker identifies food needs due to COVID-19



An individual and the CHW complete and submit an attestation form, attesting to eligibility criteria

Receiving SSP Services



Food Bank of Central & Eastern NC reviews referral for food delivery

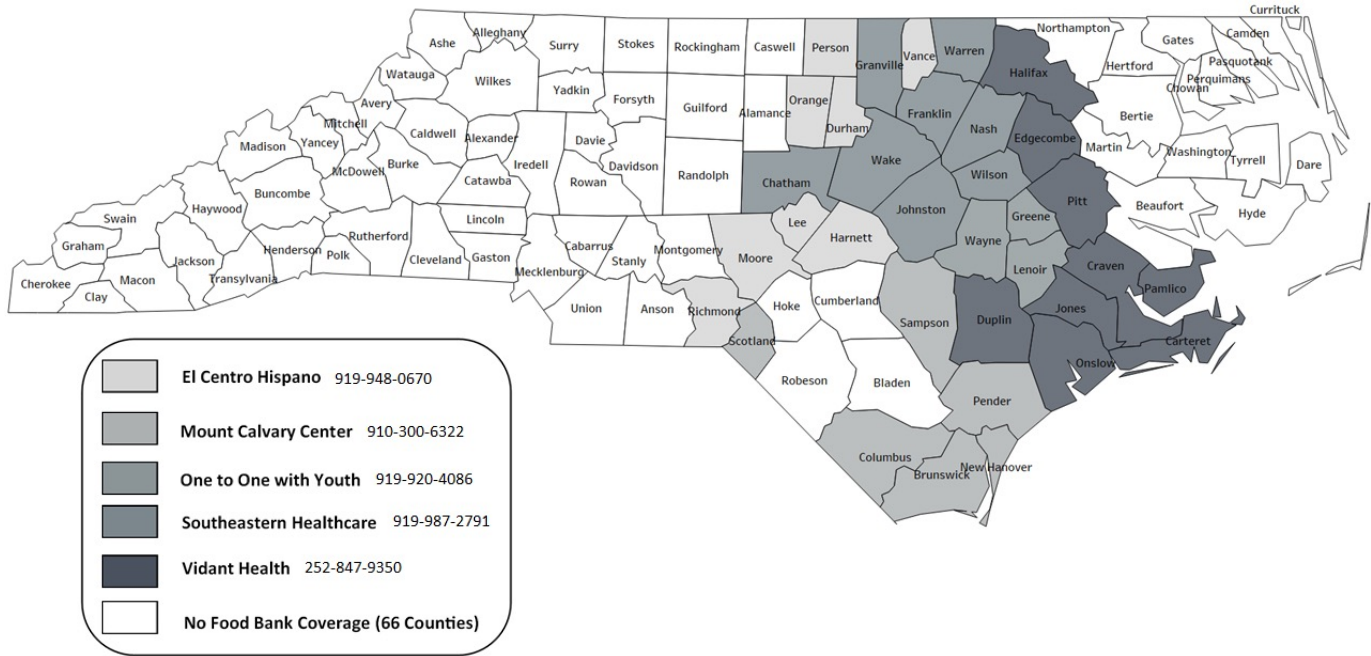


Food Bank of Central & Eastern NC connects with individuals to deliver food box(es)



Support Services Program – Eligibility Details

Am I in an SSP County?



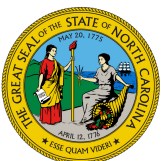
Do I Have a High-Risk Condition?

Older adults and historically marginalized populations are considered at an increased risk of becoming severely ill due to COVID-19. Adults of any age with the conditions listed below can be more likely to get severely ill from COVID-19.

CDC High-Risk Medical Conditions

- Disabilities
- Congregate Settings
- Cancer
- Chronic Kidney Disease
- Chronic Lung Disease
- Dementia
- Diabetes (Type 1 or Type 2)
- Down Syndrome
- Heart Conditions
- HIV infection
- Immunocompromised state
- Liver disease
- Overweight or Obese
- Pregnancy
- Sickle cell disease or thalassemia
- Smoking (current or former)
- Solid Organ or blood stem cell transplant
- Stroke or cerebrovascular disease
- Substance use disorders

Source: www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/need-extra-precautions/people-with-medical-conditions.html



NC Department of Health and Human Services | Office of Rural Health
 311 Ashe Avenue, Raleigh, NC 27606
 Phone: 919.527.6440 | Fax: 919.733.8300
 NCDHHS is an equal opportunity employer and provider.
 Updated 08/24/2021

If you have further questions, please contact:
 Hannah Wessler, SSP Program Manager, NCDHHS
Hannah.Wessler@dhhs.nc.gov